

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 10285 031738Z

43

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DRC-01 /061 W

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R 031605Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1955

INFO US MISSION GENEVA 135

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 10285

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG ILO VE

SUBJECT: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL ELECTION

1. FRANCISCO OLIVO, PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELAN CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS (CTV) TOLD LABATT ON NOVEMBER 30 THAT WHILE AS A VENEZUELAN HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE ANOTHER VENEZUELAN HOLD THE RESPONSIBLE POSITION OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ILO, HE AS A LABOR LEADER WOULDNOT PERSONALLY FAVOR PRESIDENT CALDERA BECOMING DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ILO. OLIVO CONSIDERS CALDERA TO BE TOO IDEOLOGICALLY BOUND BY SOCIAL CHRISTIAN DOGMA. OLIVO BELIEVES THAT POSITION WOULD BETTER BE FILLED BY A POLITICALLY NON-COMMITTED TECHNICIAN KNOWLEDGEABLE IN WORKINGS OF ILO BUREAURACY. HE ALSO STRONGLY REAFFIRMED THE CTV'S OPPOSITION TO ANY CANDIDATE WHO WOULD WEAKEN POSITION OF DEMOCRATIC LABOR UNIONS.

2. OLIVO STATED HIS BELIEF THAT CALDERA WOULD NOT ACCEPT DIRECTOR GENERAL POSITION EVEN IF IT WERE AVAILABLE TO HIM. OTHER CTV LEADERS (E.G., VARGAS) AND EMBASSY BELIEVE HIS DECISION WHETHER TO BECOME A CANDIDATE COULD STILL GO EITHER WAY BUT THAT HE CANNOT PLACE HIMSELF IN POSITION OF OPENLY SEEKING AN INTERNATIONAL OFFICE WHILE HE IS STILL PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA. CALDERA'S PRESIDENTIAL TERM RUNS UNTIL MARCH 1974 AND HE IS CONSTITUTIONALLY PROHIBITED FROM SUCCEEDING HIMSELF FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS. MCCLINTOCK

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